

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry "documentary" days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. It is important that we receive balanced, objectively obtained and reported information in stories purporting to educate or inform and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Please prevent Sinclair Broadcasting from violating election law via coerced broadcast of partisan slander and consider the recent behavior of this corporate entity as strong evidence against the renewal of its license to operate. Thank you.